Attorney Docket No. SOM919990012US1

REMARKS

The present application was filed on November 12, 1999 with claims 1-20. In the outstanding Office Action dated September 10, 2002, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, due to insufficient antecedent basis in independent claims 1, 4 and 16.

In this response, Applicants have canceled claims 1-20 and provided new claims 21-67 for consideration. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §112, second paragraph, rejection and consideration of the new claims are respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that claims 21-67 are in condition for allowance and, therefore, respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

Date: December 10, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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